

# THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF CHIPPENHAM & CORSHAM

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## SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME C

5pm (Sat) (Ch) Vigil Mass (*Pro Populo*)

9am (Cor) Sung Mass (*Pro Populo*)

*with Children's Liturgy*

11am (Ch) Sung Mass (*Mark Calway*)

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February

Weekday in Ordinary Time No Mass

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February

Weekday in Ordinary Time

12.10pm Mass (Ch)

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February

Weekday in Ordinary Time

12pm Mass (Cor) (*Louis Bruzon*)

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> February

Weekday in Ordinary Time

12.10pm Mass (Ch) (*Special Intention*)

*Followed by Eucharistic Adoration*

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February

Weekday in Ordinary Time

12pm Mass (Cor)

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> March

Feast of Saint David, Bishop,

Patron of Wales

2pm Eucharistic Adoration (Ch)

4.15pm-4.45pm Confessions (Ch)

4.45pm Benediction (Ch)

## EIGHTH SUNDAY

### IN ORDINARY TIME C

5pm (Sat) (Ch) Vigil Mass (*Pro Populo*)

9am (Cor) Sung Mass (*Pro Populo*)

11am (Ch) Sung Mass

*(Candidates for Baptism) with Children's Liturgy*

## SEVENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (C)

**2025 JUBILEE YEAR BOOKLETS** are available in Church. These are lovely devotional guides to the main themes of the Jubilee Year.

**RCIA - JOURNEY IN FAITH** The programme recommences on Wed 26<sup>th</sup> February, at 7pm in the office at St Mary's Chippenham. Please keep in your prayers those from both our parishes who journey to Baptism at the Easter Vigil, together with those to be received into the full communion of the Catholic Church.

**THE RITE OF ELECTION** takes place in our Cathedral at 11am on Saturday 8 March. On this first Saturday of Lent, as at the start of every Lent, our diocesan family will gather at the cathedral together with our bishop to celebrate the Rite of Election, where those who are journeying towards becoming part of our Catholic community are presented to Bishop Bosco. Here family and friends, sponsors and godparents, will join with those preparing for Baptism (catechumens) and those preparing to be received into full communion with the Catholic Church (candidates) as they come to this stage of their journey towards reception of the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. The witness that these candidates and catechumens give in taking this brave step is always an inspiration to those who come to pray for them and to support them in their journey. It is also a reminder of our own call to continual conversion of our hearts and our lives. Please do join our diocesan family as we welcome to our Cathedral both catechumens and candidates. All are most welcome to attend!

**THE SEASON OF LENT** A reminder that Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> March. Mass at Corsham 12pm and 6pm at Chippenham that day with the Imposition of Ashes. This is a day of fasting and abstinence. This means taking no more than one full meal, and one or two light collations (snacks) in order to sustain strength. Abstinence means abstaining from eating meat. The rules of fasting and abstinence apply to those over 14 years for abstinence, and those between the ages of 18 and 60 for fasting. The only other day of full fast and abstinence is Good Friday.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION FOR CORSHAM & CHIPPENHAM** The next session for children is Sat 1<sup>st</sup> March at 4pm. The most important part of preparation for the first Holy Communion is the weekly celebration of Sunday Mass each week. Parents, please ensure that the children's participation cards are signed each week as attendance at Mass is naturally a prerequisite of completing the course.

**SOUND SYSTEM AT ST MARY'S** We apologize that our sound system has not been functioning for the past few weeks. The fully new digital sound system is being installed early in March, so there is a sound at the end of the tunnel. The hearing loop system will be fully working too.

**WE BELIEVE FESTIVAL** We Believe is a Catholic festival celebrating 'the ultimate adventure of a life lived with God.' With worship, workshops, classes, music, theatre and more it will be a gathering 'unlike anything you've seen before.' Being held in the beautiful Oscott College from 25th – 28th July 2025 early bird tickets are now at a heavily discounted price. Please see [www.webelievifestival.com](http://www.webelievifestival.com)

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER** On Friday 7th March St Patrick's is hosting this event at 2 pm in the Church. Please do come along and join us.

**PARENT HUB** Come and listen to a talk about family life and meet other parents in the area. The next Parent Hub will take place at 3pm on Saturday 8th March at St. Patrick's Parish Hall in Corsham.

**LENT LITURGIES OF RECONCILIATION** Bishop Bosco will celebrate Liturgies of Reconciliation during Lent at five venues across the diocese. The closest to our parishes is on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm at St Peter's, Swindon. Please see the poster for more information. There will be priests available for individual confessions.

**LENT RETREAT DAY** Reconciliation as the Sacrament of Hope. Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> April at St Bernadette's Catholic Secondary School, Bristol. Speakers: Fr Brendan Callaghan SJ and Margaret & Barry Mizen. The day will provide conversation & reflection. We finish with a Service of Reconciliation & the opportunity for individual confession with Bishop Bosco & priests from the diocese. Refreshments from 9.30am, please bring a packed lunch, our day will end by 3.30pm. To register, please go to <https://embracingthemeracyofgod.eventbrite.co.uk> All are welcome!

**CATHOLIC HOMESCHOOL INFORMATION MEETING**, St John the Evangelist Church, Bath, Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2025, 10.30am to 12pm. Have you heard about homeschooling and wondered how it works? Come and hear from experienced Catholic mums who will share their insights and answer your questions. Contact: Helen Harrold (07425 154592) or Hannah Grimes (07801 566626)

**THE PARISH OFFICE** will be closed next week and re-open on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2025.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION - CONFESSIONS** are heard at St Mary's on Saturday between 4.15 pm and 4.45pm and at St Patrick's after the weekday masses or by prior arrangement with Fr Michael.

#### **PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK**

**The Sick:** Corsham: Richard Keat, Anne Keat, Sheila Taylor, Christopher Brawl, Lindsay Price, Robert Wilkins. Chippenham: David Lunt, Michael Kenny, Mike Merry, Nic Pollastrone, Chris Rosario, Victoria Kiss, Pamela Naylor, Anne Martin, Sue Sheehan. Pray for all in our hospitals, nursing homes and those who care for them.

**Recently Departed:** Jo Naylor.

**RIP Anniversaries:** Kathy McKenna, David Lord, Ann Holland, Margaret Trowbridge, Kathleen Mills, Carmel Purdon, Ann Watkin, Peter Robinson, Ellen Hall, Jean Griffin, Doris O'Toole.

#### **Peace in the Holy Land and in Ukraine**

**The Holy Father's Prayer February Intention:** Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.

**Diocesan Prayer Link:** Salisbury Parishes.

*In compliance with the requirements of GDPR permission must be sought from an individual (or next of kin) before their name can be added to a list of those who are sick. Do please advise us of any changes to be made to this list.*

## February – The Month of the Holy Family

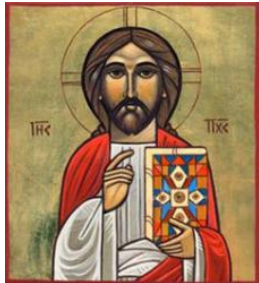


February is dedicated to the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. On 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb we see the Holy Family go to the Temple for the Presentation of Jesus. The family is together as the Holy Family. This month-dedication traces back to the 17th century. This February, let us begin to restore a little devotion to the Holy Family. It would both honour the Holy Family and at the same time become a reminder to strengthen family life. After all, the Church has taught how the Holy Family is the model, the example, for all families. So said St John Paul II called “the family of Nazareth a model for every home.” These are perfect reasons to start honoring the Holy Family this month. “The Holy Family is the beginning of countless other holy families,” St John Paul II said earlier in his *Letter to Families*. He stressed, “The history of mankind, the history of salvation, passes by way of the family.” In fact, the saintly pope

made it plain that he was trying “to show how the family is placed at the centre of the great struggle between good and evil, between life and death, between love and all that is opposed to love.”

### Collect for the Feast of the Holy Family

O God, who were pleased to give us the shining example of the Holy Family, graciously grant that we may imitate them in practicing the virtues of family life and in the bonds of charity, and so, in the joy of your house, delight one day in eternal rewards. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.



### THE WORD THIS WEEK

#### THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (C)

#### First reading

1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23

In those days: Saul arose and went down to the wilderness of Ziph with three thousand chosen men of Israel to seek David in the wilderness of Ziph.

David and Abishai went to the army by night. And there lay Saul sleeping within the encampment, with his spear stuck in the ground at his head, and Abner and the army lay round him. Then Abishai said to David, ‘God has given your enemy into your hand this day. Now please let me pin him to the earth with one stroke of the spear, and I will not strike him twice.’ But David said to Abishai, ‘Do not destroy him, for who can put out his hand against the LORD’s anointed and be guiltless?’ So David took the spear and the jar of water from Saul’s head, and they went away. No man saw it or knew it, nor did any awake, for they were all asleep, because a deep sleep from the LORD had fallen upon them.

Then David went over to the other side and stood far off on the top of the hill, with a great space between them. David said, ‘Here is the spear, O king! Let one of the young men come over and take it. The LORD rewards every man for his righteousness and his faithfulness, for the LORD gave you into my hand today, and I would not put out my hand against the LORD’s anointed.’

The word of the Lord.

## Responsorial Psalm

Ps 1

*The LORD is compassionate and gracious.*

Bless the LORD, O my soul,  
and all within me, his holy name.  
Bless the LORD, O my soul,  
and never forget all his benefits.

It is the Lord who forgives all your sins,  
who heals every one of your ills,  
who redeems your life from the grave,  
who crowns you with mercy and compassion.

The LORD is compassionate and gracious,  
slow to anger and rich in mercy.  
He does not treat us according to our sins,  
nor repay us according to our faults.

As far as the east is from the west,  
so far from us does he remove our transgressions.  
As a father has compassion on his children,  
the LORD'S compassion is on those who fear him.

## Second reading

1 Cor 15:45-49

*A reading from the First Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians*

Brothers and Sisters: 'The first man Adam became a living being'; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. But it is not the spiritual that is first but the natural, and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. As was the man of dust, so also are those who are of the dust, and as is the man of heaven, so also are those who are of heaven. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven.

The word of the Lord.

## Gospel Acclamation

Luke 6:23ab

Alleluia, alleluia.  
A new commandment I give to you, says the Lord,  
That you love one another, just as I have loved you.  
Alleluia

## Gospel

Luke 6:17, 27-38

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke*

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, 'I say to you who hear: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. To one who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from one who takes away your cloak do not withhold your tunic either. Give to everyone who begs from you; and from one who takes away your goods, do not demand them back. And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them. If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to get back the same amount. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil.

Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful. Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven. Give, and it will be given to you; good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.'

The Gospel of the Lord.